

Memorandum



Date: January 20, 2005

Agenda Item No. 1(I)1

To: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager

Subject: Miami-Dade County 2005 Preliminary State and Federal Legislative Priorities packages

Transmitted herewith are the Miami-Dade County 2005 Preliminary State and Federal Legislative Priorities packages for your consideration. You will recall that, while at the December 2, 2004, County Commission meeting, the Board accepted the state and federal priorities agenda items, further review was also directed.

Along with my staff, I have personally reviewed our suggested state and federal legislative priorities. Additionally, I and our intergovernmental team participated in the sunshine meeting led by Commissioner Heyman on our state package on Wednesday, January 12, 2005. Following that meeting, additional staff discussions were held. The legislative priorities packages before you for your consideration are the product of this review.

After the Board considers and approves the County's 2005 Legislative Priorities packages, staff will timely produce a concise, professionally prepared final package for distribution and use in our legislative efforts that will include any Board-adopted changes made today.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Burgess", written over a horizontal line.

Deputy County Manager

Cc: Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
Roman Gastesi, Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Attachments

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
2005 State Legislative Priorities – Critical Issues

AIRPORT AND SEAPORT:

- SUPPORT legislation aimed at ensuring the safety, security and providing necessary funds for the Miami-Dade County Airport and Seaport.
- OPPOSE legislation that would hamper passenger cruise industry.
- SUPPORT legislative funding for aviation capital projects included in FDOT's FY 2005 Work Program and legislation involving transportation inter-modal issues.

ARTICLE V:

- Protect workable status of 11th circuit passed during the 2004 legislative session; additionally protect County revenue sources and authority from the Article V 2004 implementing bill.
- SUPPORT UMSA's status as a municipality under the constitution for purposes of Article V for fine revenues.

BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE:

- PROMOTE the retention of Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB) and the U.S. Southern Command
- SUPPORT local, state and federal efforts to make permanent the siting of the U.S. Southern Command in Miami-Dade County.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- SUPPORT legislation to change the Agency for Workforce Innovation funding formula so that it is more favorable to Miami-Dade County.
- SUPPORT legislation reauthorizing the State of Florida Enterprise Zone Program.
- SUPPORT legislation that provides for a review of the 1974 funding formula for CDBG programs-without negative impact to the county.

FLOOD MITIGATION:

- SUPPORT continued efforts to address flood mitigation projects in flood zones.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT:

- MONITOR the Department of Community Affairs plans to create new guidelines and policies on developments of regional impact (DRIs) and their streamlining of growth management policies.

HURRICANE MITIGATION & LEGISLATION:

- SUPPORT legislation maintaining the availability of windstorm insurance coverage for residential and business properties.
- SUPPORT legislation establishing premium rate validation by technology as per First District Court of Appeals decision.
- SUPPORT full funding for the Florida Beach Erosion Control Program.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/311 SERVICES:

- SUPPORT the extension of the Miami-Dade County pilot program that allows 911 funds to be used for the 311 system, or similar non-emergency system.

JUVENILE JUSTICE:

- MONITOR the consequences of the department of juvenile justice cost shift as per the 2004 Special Session A and support legislation to enhance/assist counties to efficiently carry out obligations.

MEDICAID:

- OPPOSE legislation that increases the County contribution cap or adds days for Medicaid Hospital Inpatient Services.
- SUPPORT sufficient funding of healthcare programs and services through recurring state funds without shifting additional costs to counties.

TRANSPORTATION:

- SUPPORT legislation amending F.S. 316.003 (42) to allow for the use of roadway shoulders as a travel lane with proper improvements being made to allow traffic flow for express bus service.

WATER RESERVATIONS:

- MONITOR the development of proposed legislation on water reservations, continue evaluating the process of developing such reservations and assess the potential impacts to the County.

ITEMS FROM THIS POINT FORWARD ARE LISTED BY THREE CATORGORIES, A) SUPPORT, B) OPPOSE AND C) MONITOR IN THEIR RESPECTIVE SUBJECT MATTER

**2005 PRELIMINARY STATE LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE
OTHER ISSUES OF INTEREST**

A) ITEMS MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SUPPORTS:

CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL INITIATIVES

CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL GRANTS:

- SUPPORT legislation that restores funding for cultural and historical entities within Miami-Dade County to FY 2002-2003 levels, reactivates the Department of State's annual review and legislative appropriations process, and reestablishes the Corporations Trust fund as the dedicated funding source for cultural programs. **(CULTURAL AFFAIRS)** - *This is supported by the statewide Florida Cultural Alliance, Florida Association of Local Arts Agencies, Florida Arts Council, Americans for the Arts, Dade Cultural Alliance, Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, BCC for Broward and Palm Beach Counties legislative package, and Tri-County Commission adopted in 2004.*
- SUPPORT legislation amending the Regional Cultural Facilities Grant guidelines to better suit the needs of large scale projects. **(CULTURAL AFFAIRS)** - *This is supported by the statewide Florida Cultural Alliance, Florida Association of Local Arts Agencies, Florida Arts Council, Americans for the Arts, Dade Cultural Alliance, Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, BCC for Broward and Palm Beach Counties legislative package, and Tri-County Commission adopted in 2004.*
- SUPPORT fully funding the Dade County Courthouse Courtroom restoration through the Florida Historical Commission's list of accepted projects. **(OSBM)**

LIBRARY FUNDING:

- SUPPORT the State Aid to Libraries grant program to a funding level of 10.05 cents of every \$1.00 of local funds. Past cuts include - FY2003-04 funding level of \$.07 per local support dollar or \$2.5 million, decreased from FY 2002-2003 level set at \$.083 or \$2.9 million. **(MDPLS)** - *This is supported by the Florida Library Association.*

PARKS AND RECREATION:

- SUPPORT full funding for the South Florida Water Management District's Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration at Deering Estate – Cutler Ridge. **(MDPR)**
- SUPPORT funding for the renovation of Camp Matecumbe. Proposed renovations include: demolishing unsafe structures, renovating buildings, and providing recreational amenities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCE

EMPOWERMENT ZONE:

- SUPPORT State funding for the federal empowerment zone program. Such funding will greatly enhance economic development, job training, neighborhood project investment and the Capital Venture Discretionary Fund which makes equity investments in business opportunities within the Empowerment Zone. **(EMPOWERMENT ZONE TRUST)** *This is supported by the City of Miami, Homestead, Florida City, and Jacksonville, Greater Miami and Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, Duval County*

FINANCE:

- SUPPORT legislation adjusting service fee charges retained by Tax Collectors for providing out-sourced state services for motor vehicle title and registration transaction work handled by Tax Collectors on behalf of the State. **(FINANCE)** - *This is supported by the statewide Tax Collectors Association.*
- SUPPORT legislation allowing for economic development incentives in the form of sales tax rebates provided by the State for the construction of professional sports venues. **(FINANCE)**
- SUPPORT legislation allowing for sales tax relief for homeowners who perform hurricane strengthening improvements to their homes: **(Comm. Souto)**

- SUPPORT the development of a Constitutional Amendment freezing the tax assessments on property of low-income senior citizens receiving homestead exemption. **(Chairman Martinez)**

ENVIRONMENTAL & WASTE MANAGEMENT

FLOOD MITIGATION:

- SUPPORT Project Impact a Hazard Mitigation Task Force that includes drainage programs for the residents of Miami-Dade County. **(DERM)**
- SUPPORT legislation allowing the Army Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District flexibility to work with water control levels during the south Florida hurricane season to prevent flooding. **(Comm. Sosa)**

WATER AND SEWER PROJECTS:

- SUPPORT continued funding for the State Revolving Fund providing low interest loans for eligible water and wastewater system projects.
- SUPPORT legislation that maintains local control over feasibility, reuse, water pricing and comprehensive planning activities.

WATER USE:

- SUPPORT existing Florida water law, as it relates to local sources first, existing legal uses, and every other provision in law that protects the state's water resources, including its authority to reserve water for the natural system. **(DERM)** *This is supported by the Florida Association of Counties.*
- SUPPORT positive alternative water supply projects and adequate state funding, prior to any consideration of revisions to Chapter 373. *This issue is part of the Florida Association of Counties legislative package.*
- SUPPORT legislation relating to Administrative Fines, Reservations, and Reuse Feasibility. **(MDWSD)** *This is supported by American Water Works Association, Florida Section and Florida Water Environment Association and the Florida Association of Counties.*
- SUPPORT extending the water element of comprehensive plan requirements from December 1, 2006 to December 1, 2007. **(MDWSD)**

WASTE-TO-ENERGY:

- MAINTAIN the current state of the law which defines waste to energy as renewable, sets the standards for the purchase of power from renewable sources and grants tax credits. **(MDSW)**

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT:

- SUPPORT reinstatement of statewide funding proposals related to solid waste management services including the Recycling and Education Grant program, the Litter Control and Prevention Grant program and the Waste Tire Grant program. **(MDSW)**

FLORIDA FOREVER:

- SUPPORT full funding of the Florida Forever program and any other environmental program that provides county and municipal matching funds. **(DERM)** – *This is supported by the Florida Association of Counties.*

BEACH EROSION:

- SUPPORT continued full funding for the Florida Beach Erosion Control program. **(DERM)**

AIR QUALITY PROTECTION:

- SUPPORT continued funding assistance to local air pollution control agencies to promote the implementation of programs and to provide for delegation agreements, which will protect public health and maintain and enhance air quality in the state. **(DERM)**

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

BUILDING AND LICENSING:

- SUPPORT maintaining the level of protection offered by the Miami-Dade product evaluation and approval process and enforcement. **(BUILDING)** *This is supported by Broward and Palm Beach Counties and any other*

municipality or counties, which fall within the High Velocity Zone and who manage the local product approval system.

- SUPPORT increased local disciplinary power and funding for licensing violators and unlicensed building activity. **(BUILDING)** *This is supported by the Florida League of Cities, Florida Association of Counties, IBEW, United Association, Palm Beach County, Duvall County, Pinellas County and with several contracting associations.*
- SUPPORT building code compliance amendments to Section 489.119 F.S. to repeal provisions passed last session in Chapter No. 2003-257 that reduced bonding requirements on large construction projects. **(BUILDING)** *This is supported by the Florida League of Cities, Florida Association of Counties, IBEW, United Association, Palm Beach County, Duvall County, Pinellas County and with several contracting associations.*
- SUPPORT legislation amending F.S. 489.127 to allow State licensed contractors to be held responsible for open expired permits they have obtained in the past. **(BUILDING)** *This is supported by the Florida League of Cities, Florida Association of Counties, IBEW, United Association, Palm Beach County, Duvall County, Pinellas County and with several contracting associations.*

ZONING:

- SUPPORT state funding of the Florida Green Building Coalition. **(DERM)**
- SUPPORT legislation that would preserve the County's land use authority over wireless telecommunications facilities and oppose state preemption of this local matter, particularly in residential and agricultural areas. **(ZONING)**

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION:

- SUPPORT legislation requiring permitting, inspection, and installation of elevators, wheelchair lifts and other similar products, which are located within private residences, as a device to be regulated in conformance with the ASME National Standards, only to the extent of requiring permits to install or modernize, installation by licensed contractors and technicians, and the requirement of a satisfactory final inspection conducted by a Florida Certified Elevator Inspector. **(GSA)**

ELECTIONS:

- SUPPORT legislation allowing supervisors of elections the option to expand the number of days for early voting, voting hours, and early voting sites including additional public and/or governmental facilities outside of already established public libraries and city halls. **(MDED)**
- SUPPORT legislation amending F.S. 101.131 to clarify rules regarding poll watchers would apply to Early Voting locations, as well as Election Day precincts, where they already apply. **(MDED)**

CONSUMER SERVICES PROTECTION:

- SUPPORT legislation that allows for local regulation of consumer services issues such as: predatory lending, motor vehicle repair shop charges, used auto warranties, and auto title loans. **(CSD)**
- SUPPORT legislation that would provide for compensation of Florida Windstorm overate.

HUMAN SERVICES/HOUSING

COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES:

- SUPPORT legislation allowing for public hospitals to collect for services from patient's county of origin. **(Comm. Sosa)**
- SUPPORT legislation that caps medical liability for University of Miami physicians working at the Public Health Trust without cost shifts to the county. **(Comm. Heyman)** *This is supported by the University of Miami and the Public Health Trust/Jackson.*
- SUPPORT legislation that sustains or expands health care programs with recurring state funds.
- SUPPORT legislation creating a new Medicaid Upper Payment Limit (UPL) private hospital budget category which would draw down the maximum federal matching funds from the County's intergovernmental transfer (IGT) contingent upon it not affecting existing public hospital drawdown. **(OHCP)**
- SUPPORT states rights to obtain discounted prescription drugs through public hospitals and clinics.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES:

- MONITOR and SUPPORT the development of a universal, voluntary pre-kindergarten program and legislation consistent with the intent of the voter approved Universal Pre-K Constitutional Amendment. OPPOSE efforts to weaken or eliminate the Universal Pre-K Constitutional Amendment. **(CAA)** *This is supported by the Florida Children's Forum, United Way, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, and Florida Head Start Association.*
- SUPPORT increased funding to the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program and the activities of community action agencies. **(CAA)** *This is supported by the Florida Association of Counties.*

HUMAN SERVICES:

- SUPPORT legislation that dedicates specific state dollars to support the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program and the activities of Community Action Agencies. **(CAA)** *This is supported by the Florida Association of Counties.*
- SUPPORT legislation restoring full funding for the Cuban and Haitian Crime and Victimization Initiative. **(Comm. Sosa)**
- SUPPORT increased funding for the Miami-Dade County Community Action Agency's Hurricane Shutter Program. **(Comm. Moss)**

HOUSING & HOMELESS PROGRAMS:

- SUPPORT funding for targeted funding initiatives within Miami-Dade County including the Crisis Outplacement Housing and Services for Homeless Mentally Ill. **(Homeless Trust)** *This is supported by NAMI, Partners in crisis and the 11th Judicial Circuit Court.*
- SUPPORT the SHIP program and preserving a dedicated funding source for affordable housing initiatives. **(MDHA)**

PUBLIC SAFETY

ARTICLE V/REVISION 7:

- SUPPORT legislation that would bring Article V statutes into alignment with the constitutional provisions approved by voters in 1998, i.e. funding sources, flex dollars, and enhancing efficiencies. *This is supported by the Florida Association of Counties.*

SEAPORT

- SUPPORT legislation establishing a statewide appeals process for individuals with minor offenses to obtain seaport credentials. **(Comm. Diaz)**

MEDICAL EXAMINER

- SUPPORT legislation classifying forensic professionals as high risk status in the Florida Retirement System. *This is supported by the Florida Association of Forensic Professionals, Inc.*

TRANSPORTATION

AVIATION FUNDING:

- SUPPORT full funding for the Secure Airports for Florida's Economy (SAFE) program created by the legislature. **(MIA)** *This is supported by the Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA) and the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE).*
- SUPPORT full funding for FDOT's Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) program. Miami International Airport is a designated SIS facility. **(MIA)** *This is supported by the Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA) and the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE).*

SEAPORT:

- SUPPORT continued funding of the Sunshine State Loan Program and the Florida Port Council's efforts in securing funding sources for Florida's seaports. **(SEAPORT)** *This is supported by the Florida Ports Council and all 14 deepwater ports in the State of Florida.*

- SUPPORT retaining the FSSTED Council's current organizational structure and funding review process. **(SEAPORT)**
- SUPPORT legislation establishing a statewide appeals process for individuals with minor offenses to obtain seaport credentials. **(Comm. Diaz)**

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM:

- SUPPORT legislation that would provide additional state funding for the transportation-disadvantaged program.

B) ITEMS MIAMI-DADE COUNTY OPPOSES:

ENVIRONMENTAL & WASTE MANAGEMENT

WATER USE:

- OPPOSE the creation of a new statewide water board to oversee the existing regional Water Management Districts or any change in water resource management law that would facilitate privatization of water supplies or the redistribution of water resources of the State from one watershed to another. **(DERM)** *This is supported by the Florida Association of Counties.*

WASTE-TO-ENERGY:

- OPPOSE any state legislation allowing utility deregulation that limits or impairs waste to energy production. Ensure that the term “renewable energy” includes electricity generated from incinerated municipal solid waste. **(MDSW)** *This is supported by the City of Tampa, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Lake, Palm Beach and Broward County, Montanay Power, and Wheelabrator.*

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT:

- OPPOSE any legislation requiring counties to provide certain waste management services at no costs or reduced costs or any legislation seeking to regulate user fees charged. **(MDSW)** *This is supported by the City of Tampa, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Lake, Palm Beach and Broward County, Montanay Power, and Wheelabrator.*

FLORIDA FOREVER:

- OPPOSE redirection of excise or documentary stamp tax revenue from the conservation related trust funds to the general fund for purposes other than those intended in the originating legislation. **(DERM)**

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

ZONING:

- OPPOSE legislation relating to preemption of local government authority in the Development of Regional Impact (DRI) process. **(DPZ)** *This is supported by the Florida Association of Counties.*

CONSUMER SERVICES PROTECTION:

- OPPOSE any legislation that intends to weaken local control on current regulated industries such as wrecker services/towing, communications tax, general consumer services, ambulances, and for-hire-transportation vehicles. **(CSD)** *This is supported by: Moving Brokers, Used Automobile Warranties: Department of Legal Affairs, State of Florida, Division of Consumer Services, Broward County Consumer Affairs, Hillsborough County Commerce Department, Palm Beach County Division of Consumer Affairs, Pinellas County Office of Consumer Protection and the City of Jacksonville Division of Consumer Affairs. Auto Title Loans: Florida Association of Counties, Broward County Consumer Affairs and Palm Beach County Consumer Affairs. Predatory Fair Lending: AARP, ACORN, Center for Community Change, Consumer Federation of America, Consumer's Union, Leadership Conference for Civil Rights, NAACP, National Association of Consumer Advocates, National Consumer Reinvestment Coalition, National Consumer Law Center, National League of Cities, Self-Help Credit Union, and the US Conference of Mayors. Pawnbrokers: Broward County, Palm Beach County. State Regulation of Towing Companies: Palm Beach County Consumer Affairs, Broward County Consumer Affairs. Communications Services Tax: Florida League of Cities, Florida Association of Counties. For-Hire Transportation and Ambulance Services: Broward, Orange, Duval and Palm Beach Counties.*

BERT J. HARRIS ACT:

- OPPOSE legislation that would waive sovereign immunity for property rights claims under the Bert J. Harris Act.

COST SHIFTS/BUDGET CUTS:

- OPPOSE any legislation which diminishes the County's revenue streams and any additional cost shifts from the State to Miami-Dade County. *This is supported by the Florida Association of Counties.*
- PROTECT the benefits Miami-Dade County receives from existing revenue sharing formulas for local governments. *This is supported by the Florida Association of Counties.*

HUMAN SERVICES/HOUSING

HOUSING & HOMELESS PROGRAMS:

- OPPOSE any further cuts to the documentary stamp tax trust fund specifically dedicated to housing programs. (MDHA)

PUBLIC SAFETY

ARTICLE V/REVISION 7:

- OPPOSE legislation that does not recognize UMSA's status as a municipality under the Florida constitution for purposes of Article V.

FIREWORKS REGULATION:

- OPPOSE legislation that preempts counties from regulating fireworks. (MDFR)

PRE-TRIAL RELEASE:

- OPPOSE legislation that would adversely affect the Pre-Trial Release program and increase county adult detention costs. (OSBM)

CORRECTIONS:

- OPPOSE legislation that would mandate counties to assume responsibilities for restoring felons rights and any costs shifts associated with restoring those rights. (Comm. Barreiro)

TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM:

- OPPOSE any further cuts to the Transportation Disadvantaged Medicaid Bus Pass program.

C) ITEMS MIAMI-DADE COUNTY WILL MONITOR:

TRANSPORTATION

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION:

- MONITOR legislation that would authorize counties to impose an additional license tag fee as an alternate or additional source of funding for the Regional Transportation Authority created during the 2003 Legislative Session.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURING THE YEAR 2004

RESOLUTION 1413 -04 by Commissioner Sosa

RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR, FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO REINSTATE FUNDING FOR THE CUBAN AND HAITIAN REFUGEE CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION INITIATIVE PROGRAM.

RESOLUTION 1297 -04 by Commissioners Heyman, Rolle

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO AMEND FLA. STAT. CH. 121, PERTAINING TO THE FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM, TO PROVIDE SPECIAL RISK RETIREMENT CREDIT FOR PERSONS ATTENDING POLICE OFFICER OR CORRECTIONAL OFFICER ACADEMY CLASSES BETWEEN OCTOBER 1, 1978 AND JULY 1, 1984, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$1,000,000 TO PURCHASE RETIREMENT CREDIT ON BEHALF OF ANY SUCH OFFICERS EMPLOYED BY THE COUNTY.

RESOLUTION 1176-04 by Commissioners Morales, Carey-Shuler, Heyman, Martinez, Sorenson, Sosa

RESOLUTION URGING THE US CONGRESS TO REINSTATE THE FEDERAL ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN; URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO IMPOSE A STATE ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN; AND ALTERNATIVELY URGING THE CONGRESS AND THE LEGISLATURE TO LIFT THE PREEMPTION AND ALLOW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO IMPOSE AN ASSAULT WEAPONS BAND.

RESOLUTION 1172-04 by Commissioners Rolle, Heyman

RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES TO REQUIRE MOTORIZED SCOOTERS TO BE TITLED AND REGISTERED AND THEIR OPERATORS TO POSSESS A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE AS MANDATED BY THE FLORIDA STATUTES.

RESOLUTION 466-04 by Commissioners Moss, Heyman, Sorenson, Souto, Rolle

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE, THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO SUPPORT THE PRESERVATION, RESTORATION AND RECOGNITION OF HISTORICALLY BLACK CEMETERIES.

RESOLUTION 374-04 by Commissioner Barreiro

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE CLEAN INDOOR AIR ACT BY ADDING AN EXEMPTION FOR PERMITTED OUTDOOR CAFES.

RESOLUTION 97-04 by Commissioner Sorenson

RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT EXISTING FLORIDA WATER LAW AS IT RELATES TO LOCAL SOURCES FIRST, EXISTING LEGAL USES AND EVERY OTHER PROVISION IN LAW THAT PROTECTS THE STATE'S WATER RESOURCES INCLUDING THE AUTHORITY TO RESERVE WATER FOR THE NATURAL SYSTEM.

RESOLUTION R-789-03 by Chairman Martinez

RESOLUTION URGING THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA AND FLORIDA BAR TO AMEND FLORIDA RULE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE 3.220 TO REQUIRE CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS TO PAY COSTS FOR DISCOVERY OF SO-CALLED "CATEGORY B" OR NON-ESSENTIAL POLICE WITNESSES

APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY

Terrorism Prevention and Preparedness Outreach Program (OEM)	\$500,000
EOC Vulnerability Hardening (OEM)	\$700,000
Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training Facility (OEM)	\$300,000

NATURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Miami River Dredging Federal Channel (DERM)	\$1,000,000
Miami River Dredging Non-Federal Channel (DERM)	\$2,000,000
Solid Waste Programs Grant Funding (Waste Tire, Electronics, Recycling)	\$1,500,000

EMPOWERMENT ZONE TRUST

Miami-Dade Empowerment Trust's Revitalization Initiative (Ezt)	\$5,000,000
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GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Mosquito Control Facility-Homestead Office (MDPW)	\$1,000,000
Mosquito Control Facility-Main Office (MDPW)	\$1,750,000
Bridge Repair (MDPW)	\$20,000,000

HOMELESS TRUST

Crisis Outplacement Housing and Services for Homeless Mentally Ill (HOMELESS TRUST)	\$1,000,000
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HUMAN SERVICES

High Risk Nutritional Program for Elders (CAA)	\$835,000
Juvenile Alternative Services Program/JASP (DHS)	\$583,000

JUVENILE SERVICES

Juvenile Assessment Center-(JAC)	\$729,000
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COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

Youth Leadership Project (CAA)	\$60,000
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CULTURAL AFFAIRS & PUBLIC LIBRARIES

State Aide to Public Libraries (MDPLS)	\$2,500,000
Performing Arts Center (PAC)	\$2,500,000
Performing Arts Center (Regional Cultural Facilities Grant Program) (PAC)	\$2,500,000

PARKS AND RECREATION

Metro Zoo's Dr. Wilde's World (MDPR)	\$547,000
Metro Zoo's Hidden Treasures of Tropical America (MDPR)	\$6,000,000
Greynold's Park Boathouse Restoration (MDPR)	\$350,000
Caleb Center Restoration (MDPR)	\$230,600
Camp Matecumbe Building Renovation (MDPR)	\$2,431,000
Deering Estate - Cutler Slough Rehydration Project	\$917,000

TRANSPORTATION

North Corridor Metrorail extension (MDTA)	\$10,000,000
East-West Metrorail Corridor (MDTA)	\$10,000,000



PRELIMINARY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 2005 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

Updated as of January 18, 2005

CRITICAL PRIORITIES

TRANSPORTATION

Aviation

Airport EDS Baggage Integration: SUPPORT approval of the Memorandum of Agreement and a Letter of Intent (LOI) between MDAD and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for terminal modifications required to integrate explosive detection systems (EDS) in-line with MIA's baggage sorting systems. The total amount of the requested LOI is approximately \$211.2 million: \$51,699,600 for Central Terminal and \$159,486,161 for the North and South Terminals. Congress has directed TSA to move all EDS in-line with airport baggage sorting systems but MIA has not yet received any federal funding for EDS installation. The MDAD needs assurances in the form of a MOA or LOI to ensure that the federal government pays its 75% share for the installation of EDS in-line with baggage systems.

Airport Department of Defense (DOD) Remediation: SUPPORT efforts to direct the DOD to pay its fair share of the damages arising out of subsurface contamination at Miami International Airport caused by the operations of the United States Air Force and its contractors at MIA from the World War II era through the Vietnam era. The County filed an appeal to a decision rendered in October 2004 by the United States District Court in the Southern District of Florida. In the past, DOD has recognized that it is liable and responsible for at least some of the costs of responding to environmental contamination at and around MIA. The Court ruled against Miami Dade County and county attorneys are developing an appeals strategy. The County's claim is in excess of \$100 million.

MIA Runway 9R/27L Strengthening: SUPPORT \$11 million earmark for Runway Strengthening including adjacent connector Taxiways, a critical component included in the Aviation Department's Capital Improvement Program.

Opa-Locka Airport Air Traffic Control Tower: SUPPORT \$4 million funding request for Opa-Locka Air Traffic Control Tower and pursue continued funding in FAA's Facilities and Equipment (F&E) account. The current Opa-Locka Airport control tower is in an advanced stage of deterioration and it is not economically feasible to repair. This tower is critical for the continued availability of air traffic control services at Opa-Locka Airport. Opa-Locka Airport is a major economic contributor to South Florida accounting for 1,938 direct and indirect jobs and \$106 million in business revenues. OSHA has informed the FAA that no further compliance extension will be granted and will require the permanent closing of the tower on September 30, 2007.

International to International and Transit without Visa (TWOV) Programs: ADVOCATE for MIA to operate on a permanent basis a pilot program which allows MIA to utilize former transit lounges for the safe and efficient processing of ITI passengers. TSA and CBP (Customs and Border Protection) have set up inspection stations in the lounges that are now being used for customs and security screening. MONITOR the Department of Homeland Security's development of a new program to replace the ITI and Transit without Visa (TWOV) programs called the Air Transit Program (ATP).

TSA and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Staffing at MIA: ADVOCATE for adequate Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) staffing levels at security checkpoints, baggage screening operations and federal inspection stations at MIA to ensure that neither processing times nor security are compromised.

Seaport

Seaport Security: SUPPORT increased funding of seaport security grants and programs associated with the "Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002" and implementation of the security related costs of the Port's capital improvement project.

Miami Harbor Channel Dredging Project: SUPPORT \$20 million in reprogrammed funding from the US Army Corps of Engineers construction budget for dredging at the Port of Miami. This funding would provide for the completion of Phase II dredging at the Port of Miami, finishing the authorized 42- and 36- foot projects.

Miami Harbor Channel General Reevaluation Report: SUPPORT authorization of Miami Harbor Channel General Reevaluation Report for deepening and expansion of Port of Miami channels to 50 feet which will accommodate mega-cargo ships in the 2005 Water Resources Development Act.

Miami Harbor Channel Dredging Project Mitigation: SUPPORT revision in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2005 that would clearly authorizing federal cost sharing in mitigation associated with Phase II contractor impacts to natural resources within the Federal Harbor Project. Ensure that language is adequate to support a reimbursement request by Miami-Dade County. SUPPORT appropriation request for \$1.7 million for mitigation reimbursement involving contractor violation during Miami Harbor Channel Dredging – 42- and 36-foot projects.

Transit

New Starts Funding Request – East-West and North Corridors: SUPPORT \$10 million funding request to be used for study, planning and preliminary engineering on the Miami-Dade County East-West Corridor. SUPPORT \$10 million funding request to be used for final design on the Miami-Dade County North Corridor.

Bus Related Discretionary Funds: SUPPORT \$10 million funding request of discretionary federal Bus and Bus-Related Funds to enhance current levels of service to meet growing transportation demand, including 24-hour bus service.

Transportation Reauthorization: SUPPORT inclusion of language approved by Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to provide federal

matching credit for non-federal funds expending on MIC-Earlington Heights Metrorail; SUPPORT reauthorization of all corridors included in the Peoples Transportation Plan.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Homeland Security Regional Complex: SUPPORT efforts to secure the placement of a regional DHS facility in Miami-Dade County. Our community is a credible target for terrorist activities and placing a regional office in Miami-Dade County will greatly augment the significant investment already made by the DHS and ensure Florida's largest metropolitan area has the mobilization and deployment resources available to coordinate with federal and state officials in the event of a terrorist attack or other crisis.

Homestead Air Reserve Base Redevelopment: SUPPORT \$1 million funding request to replace and upgrade infrastructure that no longer meets regulatory requirements and continues to deteriorate due to lack of maintenance funding and neglect that occurred over the past decade while the fate of the Base and surplus property was in question. This will make the land readily available for interagency, military or Homeland Security uses.

Southcom and Homestead: PROMOTE the retention of Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB) and the U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) during the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process. SUPPORT the state's efforts to make permanent the siting of the U.S. Southern Command in Miami-Dade County. COORDINATE with the Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security to accommodate further interagency functions at Homestead Air Force Reserve Base, including working with the Coast Guard in relocating Metro Zoo facility at Homestead Air Force Reserve Base. Increase the military units located at Homestead Air Force Reserve Base, using the relocation of the Special Operations Command South (SOC SOUTH) serves as a model.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Miami River Dredging: SUPPORT \$17.7 million funding request for the construction phase of the Miami River Dredging Project to restore authorized depth and width to the navigation channel.

Beach Erosion Control: SUPPORT \$4.5 million funding request to conduct ongoing periodic renourishment of eroded segments of the federally authorized Miami-Dade County Shore Protection Project. President Bush's 2005 proposed budget cuts shore-protection projects nationally by 25 percent to about \$63 million, with no money included for beach renourishment in Florida. SUPPORT statewide efforts to restore federal funding for beach renourishment.

Everglades Restoration: SUPPORT working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District to preauthorize the reimbursement to Miami-Dade County for the cost of acquiring property for the South Miami-Dade Reuse project and to expedite such preauthorization. SUPPORT working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Department of Interior to expedite the completion of the Modified Water Delivery for the Everglades National Park and the C-111 projects. SUPPORT cooperative efforts to ensure the full implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).

Water and Wastewater – Alternative Treatment Technology: SUPPORT the efforts of the Water and Sewer Department (WASD) to incorporate pilot testing alternative treatment technologies for the South District Wastewater Treatment Plant. PROMOTE the County's

interests regarding the U.S. Geological Survey agreement to conduct a ground water study of the Florida Aquifer and the alternative treatment technology per the Consent Order between Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Infrastructure Improvements: SUPPORT continued appropriations to assist in funding capital improvements for the economic and environmental betterment of the region. (Miami-Dade County's Water and Sewer Department received \$3 million in FY 02 appropriations for improvements to wastewater and drinking water plants, as well as connections to the sewer and water systems in commercial areas.) SUPPORT \$2.5 million request for improvements to the Hialeah Water Treatment Plant and SUPPORT \$2.5 million request for improvements to the Preston Water Treatment Plant. Modifications are needed at both plants to meet new regulations included in the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act.

OTHER PRIORITIES

Aviation

Unfunded Security Mandates and Cost Free Space: SUPPORT efforts to assure that the federal government funds all federal airport security mandates without impacting traditional airport funding sources for capacity and other critical projects. This includes requests by the federal government to include space for federal agencies at no cost, which has a significant impact on airport operations.

Machine Readable Passports (MRP) and U.S. VISIT Programs: MONITOR the implementation of these new programs closely and work with the airlines to ensure that new rules and regulations do not cause undue congestion and delay while also working to ensure that security is not compromised.

High Speed Taxiway: SUPPORT \$2 million request for the construction of a new high speed taxiway connecting Runway 9/27 and Taxiway Y to improve safety, circulation, and reduce taxi wait times.

Grants, Reimbursements and General Funding: SUPPORT efforts to reimburse MIA for additional homeland security costs incurred when the terror threat level is elevated from Elevated to High. SUPPORT efforts to secure grants for alternative fuels and equipment, security technology, environmental remediation and utility infrastructure. SUPPORT full funding of the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and other Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) programs.

Community and Economic Development

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG): ADVOCATE to restore the previous year's funding level of CSBG funding in FY06. In FY05, the Administration proposed reducing CSBG funds by 23%, which will ultimately result in a reduction of the State of Florida's overall allocation of CSBG funds, and thus lowering the amount of dollars allocated to Miami-Dade County. Restoring and increasing funding in the reauthorization supports the Community Action Agency in expanding services to low-income families transitioning from public assistance. ADVOCATE changes in the national formula used for funding to States whose recipients are primarily Community Action Agencies. The demand in Miami Dade County for CSBG services has never been greater. The unemployed and the working poor have turned to Miami Dade County CAA for help in meeting basic needs and making a fresh start. Additionally, more and

more families of Reservists called to extended duty serving our country are also receiving help from CAAs to make ends meet. The poverty levels and population in Miami Dade County has increased in recent years. The national funding formula for States has not been changed in years.

Corporation for National Services and Older Americans Act: SUPPORT efforts to continue funding the Corporation for National Services, enhancing the quality of life of our elders and avoiding premature institutionalization, including funding for meals for the elderly, adult day care, elderly transportation and adult home care.

Empowerment Zone Funding: SUPPORT \$10 million funding request for all Round II Empowerment Zones. Funding will assist with economic development, job training, land acquisition, neighborhood improvement projects and the Capital Venture Discretionary Fund that makes equity investments in business opportunities within the Empowerment Zone. SUPPORT legislation that would designate a permanent annual funding source for the Round II Empowerment Zones.

Head Start/Early Head Start Facilities: SUPPORT \$7.75 million funding request to construct two new Head Start/Early Head Start facilities to house the needs of families and children. While the Community Action Agency's Head Start division has the necessary programming and service dollars, it needs additional facilities to serve the community and an increase in delivery of Head Start services for poor children from birth to age 5 and their families. OPPOSE efforts changing the funding mechanism for Head Start/Early Head from direct funding by the Department of Health and Human Services to Block Grant funding by the state.

Juvenile Assessment Center's (JAC) National Demonstration Project: SUPPORT \$2 million funding request for the conclusion of the JAC National Demonstration Project to assist with reforming the current system of Juvenile Justice. The Project will result in the final development of effective assessment tools, interventions and treatments to reduce the number of delinquent youth in Miami-Dade County.

Hurricane Shutters: SUPPORT increased funding for federally funded hurricane shutter program for the elderly and economically disadvantaged.

Elections Reform

Extended Hours and Days: ADVOCATE for extended hours and days for voting in accordance to the Help America Vote Act, making voting and administering elections the most convenient, assessable, and easy to use, as well as, nondiscriminatory. Therefore affording each registered and eligible voter an opportunity to vote and have that vote counted. MONITOR funding and implementation of the 2000 Help America Vote Act and any subsequent election reform bills.

Environment and Infrastructure

Biscayne Bay Feasibility Study: SUPPORT \$250,000 request to fund the ongoing feasibility study being conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Miami-Dade County that examines the affect of canal and groundwater discharges on Biscayne Bay's hydrodynamics, water quality and ecology.

Energy Restructuring: MONITOR proposed legislation addressing Utility Deregulation to preserve existing contracts entered into under Section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory

Policies Act (PURPA) of 1978 and the existing requirement that utilities purchase power from alternative or renewable sources, including electricity generated from municipal solid waste.

Environmental Protection Agency Policy on Blending: SUPPORT action to ensure that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maintain its policy of allowing utilities to blend peak excess flow with fully treated wastewater during periods of wet weather and to specifically include this policy in EPA rules. Without this protection, the County could be open to unfair enforcement actions at both the federal and state levels. A policy prohibiting blending would cost millions and not be a cost effective means to handle excess flow.

Florida Area Coastal Environment (FACE Initiative): SUPPORT legislative and administrative action in the creation and implementation of directives set forth by the FACE initiative. The FACE initiative is a program to carry out long-term, high quality coastal ocean measurements and scientific analysis needed for the creation of science-based regulations, long-term infrastructure planning and environmental protection.

Flood Mitigation Projects: SUPPORT efforts to secure funding for hurricane and storm related flood mitigation projects.

Flow Control/Interstate Waste Transport: SUPPORT legislation restoring state/local authority over receipt of waste from outside the jurisdiction or region and, in parallel, flow control authority over locally generated waste.

National Clean and Safe Water Fund Act: SUPPORT efforts to establish a new US Treasury account utilizing fines and penalties collected under the Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water Acts, to fund sewer and sanitary overflow projects, drinking water source protection, water conservation projects, wetland protection, agriculture best management projects, cleanup of contaminated sediments, and decentralization of stormwater and wastewater treatment projects.

Power Plant Emissions Reductions: SUPPORT legislation that will ensure facilities that have previously completed air pollution system upgrades, in compliance with applicable sections of the Clean Air Act, be considered in compliance with and given exemption from new legislation that will require "power-generating" facilities to meet requirements and make upgrades that are already required of them through the Clean Air Act.

Rebuild America Act: SUPPORT the establishment of a long-term funding for wastewater, drinking water, wet weather and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Projects. Nationally, the need for water and sewer infrastructure improvements is estimated to be \$23 billion.

Renewable Energy: SUPPORT legislation encouraging the expanded use of alternative sources of power to include "renewable energy". SUPPORT efforts to amend the definition of "qualified energy resources" to include municipal solid waste and landfill methane gas recovery (biomass).

Water Infrastructure Network: SUPPORT efforts by the Water Infrastructure Network (WIN) program to establish a long-term grant program for needed water and sewer infrastructure improvements, along with additional funding support of the revolving loan program

Water Quality Financing Act: SUPPORT the efforts to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize appropriations for State water pollution control revolving funds, and for other purposes.

Wastewater Treatment Security Act: SUPPORT increased funding to help the costs of assessments of vulnerability and costs associated with construction of security measures; as the disruption of wastewater treatment plants could have a devastating impact on public safety, health, and the environment.

General Government and Public Works

Consumer Services: MONITOR bills relating to cable television and telecommunications use of rights of way, fees and taxation. MONITOR bills relating to the restructuring of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

Mosquito Control: SUPPORT effort to secure \$250,000 in federal funding from APHIS or related agencies for mosquito control facility construction and spraying of storm drains in Miami-Dade County that serve as breeding grounds for mosquitoes that can spread the West Nile Virus, Dengue Fever, and Encephalitis.

Regulated Industries: MONITOR legislation that affects the following County regulated industries: motor vehicle repair; moving; locksmith; wrecker; vehicle immobilization; motor vehicle title loan and general consumer protection; and, for-hire transportation vehicles, including taxicabs, limousines and ambulance service.

Homeland Security (*Listed by Department)

***Emergency Management**

High Threat Urban Area Program: SUPPORT increases of federal Homeland Security funds for areas where the threat of terrorist attack is greatest such as, Miami-Dade County. In FY03 under the High Threat Urban Area Program, the program was funded at \$800 million. Miami-Dade County is one of twenty-one cities and contiguous counties that have been designated under the Urban Area Security Initiative, commonly referred to as the High Threat Urban Area Program. SUPPORT the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program reauthorization that will provide for faster and smarter funding for first responders at the County level as well as direct Homeland Security Funds directly to Miami-Dade County.

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) training site: SUPPORT \$3 million funding request to develop and construct a CERT training site to include a classroom, a warehouse, and an urban search and rescue environment. The site will be on donated land and will utilize in-kind engineering and construction to offset total costs.

***Fire Rescue**

Partnership for Disaster Education: SUPPORT \$1.5 million request for disaster preparedness program, a proposed multi-phase education program that brings together community members to educate them about their role in disaster preparedness.

Marine Services Fire Rescue Vessel and Enhancement: SUPPORT \$3.5 million for water based firefighting capabilities that would help prevent immediate delays and/or access to areas vulnerable to terrorist attacks. Currently there is limited access by land to cruise and cargo ships, which creates a delay in life saving capabilities at the largest cruise port in the southeast. Additionally, firefighting capabilities from water would allow Miami-Dade Fire Rescue to support the U.S. Coast Guard and to provide much needed mutual aid to other surrounding

agencies at the Port of Miami, the Miami River, Biscayne Bay and local waterways under the jurisdiction of Miami-Dade Fire Rescue.

***Medical Examiner**

Response and Identification Equipment: SUPPORT \$307,176 request for the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department, acquire portable equipment in order to establish initial necessary mobile morgue functions to assist in immediate identification of victims. Currently, the Medical Examiner Department has insufficient resources to initially equip a mobile morgue should the need arise in the event of a mass fatality incident. This department has a statutory mandate to investigate all mass fatality incidents, establish identification of victims, and determine of the cause and manner of death of each victim.

***Police Department**

Ports, Coastal and Maritime Patrol Initiative: SUPPORT \$480,000 request to fund the acquisition of two port security vessels for Miami-Dade County Police Department's (MDPD) Marine Patrol Unit (MPU) for use in patrolling both the Port of Miami and the Miami River and adjacent coastal areas. Under new Federal Government guidelines, the Miami-Dade Police Department's (MDPD) Marine Patrol Unit (MPU) has had to re-orient itself from a unit that was primarily public-service based to one that has major homeland security responsibilities. New vessels would be equipped to monitor the cameras that survey both areas and would become part of the United States Coast Guard's (USCG) "Home Field Advantage" initiative, which monitors both the port and coastal areas and the incoming ship traffic, in addition to providing an immediate response capability. A coastal patrol vessel is also required to upgrade the current fleet in order to monitor coastal vessel traffic in the South Florida region. This vessel would be equipped with the USCG's "Hawkeye" tracking system and thus enhance the MPU's border security mission.

Anti-Terrorism Electronic Surveillance: SUPPORT \$898,300 request to fund the acquisition of new, state of the art equipment that will allow for safe and undetected collection of audio and video evidence that will detect, deter, and foil terrorist acts, as well as, enable the identification, apprehension and subsequent prosecution of targets involved in domestic and international terrorism and other crimes routinely utilized to finance and support terrorist acts. Meeting these technical needs assists the Miami-Dade Police Department, coordinates and assists other municipal, state, and federal agencies by applying technical assistance and utilizing available tools during criminal investigations.

Tactical Support Component of the Countywide Anti-Terrorism Response: SUPPORT \$559,500 request to fund the Miami-Dade Police Department's (MDPD) Special Response Team (SRT). As a Tier-1 Responder for Miami-Dade County Office of Emergency Management's (OEM) Terrorism Response Plan, the SRT plays an integral role as the County's primary tactical response unit for terrorist incidents involving chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or explosive (CBRNE) weapons of mass destruction (WMD). SRT responds in conjunction with the MDPD Bomb Squad and Miami-Dade Fire-Rescue Department (MDFRD) to mitigate any active threats during these situations. Specifically, SRT provides security for these units and provides tactical entry capabilities in the event that terrorists are actively shooting or barricading themselves with hostages. With a population approximating 2.5 million people spread out over 1,944 square miles, Miami-Dade County is comprised of 35 municipalities. The requested equipment will provide the necessary tools and technology to respond to acts of terrorism or WMD situations when conventional, biological or chemical weapons are utilized.

Operation Safe Port Operations: SUPPORT \$ 900,000 request to further fund the Miami-Dade Police Department Underwater Recovery / Homeland Security Units to conduct random seawall and hull searches for ordinance or any other potential threat to the safety of passengers and port workers at the Port of Miami. The Port of Miami contributes over \$8 billion annual impact on the economy of South Florida and protecting the second largest economic engine in the County is of critical importance.

Cyber Security Proposal: SUPPORT \$528,385 request to implement a system of firewalls and Virtual Private Networks with appropriate hardware and software to help the department ensure the continued protection of the various connections to the Florida Crime Information Center, the National Crime Information Center, and Miami-Dade County's own Criminal Justice Information System. Successful implementation of the new security system will provide protection for the recently implemented e-Police system designed to assist the patrol officer on the street by providing criminal justice information critical to the continued protection of life and property throughout the entire Miami-Dade County community. Total Cost for this project is \$ 528,385 with a recurring yearly cost of \$70,000 after the first year.

Metropolitan Interagency Homeland Security Training Facility: SUPPORT \$35 million in funding request and grants for the construction of a Metropolitan Interagency Homeland Training Facility multi-agency training facility dedicated to practical exercises, developing tactics to reduce vulnerabilities, homeland security and terrorism education, and preparing emergency first responders in South Florida. This initiative will centralize training initiatives among all emergency personnel and first responders within the region and provide a dedicated venue for matters related to homeland security. Collaborative efforts and training are essential for preparing or responding to homeland security. This project will provide a sole setting for training local, county, state, and federal emergency response personnel in all matters germane to homeland security and disaster response; e.g., incident command, tactical response, vulnerability assessment, intelligence gathering and analysis, and simulation exercises.

Records Imaging: SUPPORT \$2.2 million funding request for Miami-Dade County Police Department to complete their central records imaging project to enhance law enforcement's ability to store, manage, retrieve official records, and provide timely information.

***Public Works**

Bridge Vulnerability: SUPPORT \$650,000 request to fund an engineering review to determine the vulnerability of the Venetian Causeway, Rickenbacker Causeway and five bascule bridges over the Miami River from an explosion. The consultant will be required to recommend what structural and non-structural improvements can be implemented to reduce the blast risk to the facility. When designing a bridge, only live (traffic and wind) and dead weight of the structure design loads are considered, calculations to determine what blast force these structures may withstand are not undertaken. Should an event occur that would decommission a bridge, access to the City of Miami Central Business District or Miami Beach and/or the Village of Key Biscayne would be restricted or no longer exist resulting in extraordinary efforts to restore the pre-existing level of service

***Water and Sewer**

Infrastructure Protection: SUPPORT efforts to fund \$101,750,000 to protect vulnerabilities to Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department facilities responsible for providing clean and safe

drinking water to the 3 million plus residents of Miami-Dade County. In recent years, the Department has conducted security assessments in our efforts to enhance security to our water systems. These assessments have found areas of vulnerability, which could lead to a breakdown in security. To this end, we are proposing enhancing some elements of our security protocols.

Housing

Public Housing Capital Fund, Operating Fund, and Section 8: SUPPORT funding increases above the FY05 funding level for the Public Housing Capital Fund, the Public Housing Operating Fund. SUPPORT funding increases above the FY 05 funding level in the Section 8 Housing Program and protect voucher formula funding.

Elderly Housing: SUPPORT innovative housing initiatives to improve and expand affordable housing for the elderly, including items such as pilot joint use programs to successfully develop sites owned by the US Postal Service and or other governmental vacant land in pilot programs that marry needs of the federal government with the needs of our local Housing Authority. A pilot program may include housing for migrant workers.

Pilot PACE Program: SUPPORT a demonstration Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) project in Miami-Dade County in conjunction to the building of wellness centers at housing properties. The PACE program is a comprehensive program for services to the elderly in a public housing setting will be a Pilot.

Human Services and Community Issues

Children's Issues: SUPPORT Head Start reauthorization that increases funding for Head Start and Early Head Start programs and services. SUPPORT increases in funding to 21st Century Learning programs. SUPPORT legislation that provides funding for quality comprehensive Pre-K. SUPPORT legislation that expands the Child Health Improvement Program (CHIP) to cover uninsured children, including immigrant children.

Welfare Reform Reauthorization: SUPPORT reauthorization of the 1996 Welfare Reform Law that includes increases in funding for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Block Grants and Child Care Development Block Grants (CCDBGs).

Child Health Improvement Act: SUPPORT the Immigrant Child Health Improvement Act - included in the Senate version of the Prescription Drug and Medicare Improvement Act of 2003 - provides states and counties the option to cover legal immigrant children and pregnant women under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), restoring a benefit taken away from legal immigrants in 1996 Welfare Reform Law.

Elderly Issues: SUPPORT an increase in funding for the Corporation for National Service (CNS) to support the expansion of the Foster Grandparent Program, Senior Companion Program, and Retired Senior Volunteer Program and increase in funding for the Meals for the Elderly Program through support of the Older Americans Act, modifying the Social Security program to secure current levels of benefits for the future, improving Medicare by enhancing coverage for prescriptions, therapies, services, and procedures supporting a National Patients Bill of Rights.

AIDS: SUPPORT increased funding for the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Relief Grant Program.

Jackson Memorial Hospital: SUPPORT Jackson Memorial Hospital's federal legislative priorities including funding for Primary Care Services, Information Technology Infrastructure and the Patient Tower Capital Funds. Also support and address other health care issues such as intergovernmental transfers, 340B pricing program, Health Access Network Demonstration pilot program, undocumented immigrants, the Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act and the Medicaid Safety Net.

Assault Weapons: URGE Congress to reinstate the Federal Assault Weapons Ban. This ban prohibits the manufacture and sale of specific models of military-style firearms. The current ban expired in September, 2004. Today, previously banned assault weapons are legal to sell.

Immigration

General Immigration: SUPPORT increased funding for refugee resettlement programs. SUPPORT efforts to restore federal benefits to legal immigrants and children. SUPPORT the Andean Adjustment Act and similar legislation that helps members of Miami-Dade County immigrant communities adjust their immigration status. SUPPORT efforts to pass the Dream Act, which would allow undocumented immigrants to remain in the United States legally on condition they complete two years of military service, two years of college or 910 hours of community service within six years of high school graduation - undocumented immigrants who meet those requirements then could apply for permanent legal residency. OPPOSE to deputize state and local police as immigration agents, responsible for enforcing civil immigration laws - proposals such as the "Clear Law Enforcement for Criminal Alien Removal (CLEAR) Act (H.R. 2671) that may adversely affect their ability to gain the trust of immigrant residents, and could dismantle gains made in reducing crime since the advent of "community-based policing" in regions with high immigrant populations.

Haitian Immigration: PROMOTE fair and equal treatment for detained Haitian refugees. SUPPORT passage of the Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act (HRIFA) fix-it bill. SUPPORT the Haiti Economic Recovery Act to promote increased trade in Haiti.

Temporary Protective Status: Support efforts to give Temporary Protected Status to thousands of immigrants living in the Miami-Dade County and the entire United States. Providing TPS status would give temporary protection to persons who have sought temporary refuge from guerrillas and civil unrest in their home country.

International Trade

Free Trade and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA): SUPPORT efforts to permanently locate the Permanent Secretariat of the FTAA in Miami-Dade County. MONITOR trade legislation impacting South Florida and SUPPORT \$2 million request for the Jay Malina International Trade Consortium of Miami-Dade County to expand and develop two-way international trade by conducting economic impact and market research studies, incoming and outgoing trade missions, conferences, education and training workshops.

Parks and Cultural Resources

Miami Circle: SUPPORT efforts to accelerate the Department of the Interior's study to determine the national significance of the Miami Circle and the suitability and feasibility of including the Circle site in the National Park System, specifically Biscayne Bay National Park. A bill mandating the aforementioned study passed with County support by the 108th Congress.

Park Facilities: SUPPORT \$200,000 funding request to expand trails and bay access opportunities at Chapman Field Park, SUPPORT \$1 million funding request for greenway construction and enhancement on Biscayne and Black Creek Trails, SUPPORT \$500,000 funding request for the acquisition and construction of the Ludlum Trail.

Performing Arts Center (PAC): SUPPORT \$900,000 funding request to acquire property adjacent to the new Performing Arts Center to implement plans for neighborhood economic and social revitalization. SUPPORT \$500,000 funding request to establish an extensive Technology infrastructure in the Performing Arts Center to create jobs in our emerging entertainment industry and provide training for Empowerment Zone residents. SUPPORT \$500,000 million funding request for construction of a pedestrian bridge across Biscayne Boulevard, linking the Ballet Opera House to the Concert Hall. SUPPORT \$400,000 funding request for the construction of the Main Performing Arts Center Plaza on and adjacent to Biscayne Boulevard. The PAC is an important element in the revitalization of downtown Miami and the Empowerment Zone is expected to generate up to 2,400 permanent jobs.

UPARR: SUPPORT maintaining or increasing funding for the Urban Parks and Recreational Recovery Program (UPARR), which has been a source of funding for the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department (MDPR) in the past.

Seaport

Maritime Transportation Security Act: Monitor the development of the implementing regulations to the Maritime Transportation Security Act.

Port Industry-Identified Refinements: SUPPORT authorization of port industry-identified refinements to the Water Resources Development Act WRDA 2003. The proposed legislation will enable Miami-Dade County to benefit from industry-supported initiatives to increase federal cost sharing and reduce liabilities.

Cruise Ships: SUPPORT legislation to amend the Passenger Vessel Services Act of 1886 and permit, under specific and limited circumstances, the operation of foreign built cruise vessels already operating in other markets to operate in the U.S. domestic cruise trades.

Harbor Maintenance Tax: SUPPORT authorization of general revenues to pay the federal costs of operating and maintaining the nation's harbors and repeal the Harbor Maintenance Tax ("HMT").

Transit

Transportation Reauthorization: SUPPORT reauthorization of all rail corridors included in the People's Transportation Plan. SUPPORT legislation that strengthens transportation funding guarantees. The Firewall and Revenue Aligned Budget Authority provisions of TEA-21 should be strengthened to ensure that all revenues in the Highway Trust Fund are spent for their intended purpose. SUPPORT legislation that increases funding for transportation from the Highway Trust Fund and General Fund, such as (1) elimination of the 2.5 cents per gallon of gasohol transfer to the General Fund, (2) rebating the 5.2 cents per gallon of subsidy for gasohol from the General Fund, and (3) spending down the balance of funds in the Highway Trust Fund. SUPPORT legislation that maximizes the return of funding to Florida; the next federal act should guarantee Florida at least a 95% rate of return on all funds distributed to the states. SUPPORT legislation

that expands innovative financing techniques, such as leverage leases and Transportation Finance Corporations. SUPPORT legislation that maintains oversight of transit security issues with the federal government and prevents its transfer to the state.

Transit Security System: SUPPORT \$5 million funding request to enhance and install security and surveillance systems in transit properties and vehicles. The enhancements include: installation of real-time surveillance and recording system; throughout transit operations and maintenance facilities, rail/mover and fleet and rail/mover and bus stations, razor wire and security sensor fencing on the perimeter of facilities, access gate identification cards and coded proximity cards to secure access to critical areas and explosive resistant containers.

Transit Hub: Support \$1 million funding request to construct a transit hub at the intersection of NW 7th Avenue and NW 62nd Street will provide seamless access for commuters to and from the Liberty City area.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURING THE YEAR 2004

RESOLUTION 1442-04 sponsored by Commissioner Moss

RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS TO FUND SERVICES CRITICAL TO PREVENT AND ADDRESS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2005 APPROPRIATIONS BILL

RESOLUTION 1440-04 sponsored by Commissioners Sorenson, Rolle, Jordan

RESOLUTION URGING THE SECRETARY OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO CERTIFY TO CONGRESS THAT THE IMPORTATION OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FROM CANADA IS SAFE AND COST EFFECTIVE

RESOLUTION 1312-04 sponsored by Commissioners Carey-Shuler, Rolle

RESOLUTION URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY PROTECTIVE STATUS (TSP) TO HAITIAN NATIONALS SEEKING REFUGE IN THE UNITED STATES DURING THE CURRENT PERIOD OF HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN HAITI

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RESOLUTION 1176-04 sponsored by Commissioners Morales, Carey-Shuler, Heyman, Martinez, Sorenson, Sosa

RESOLUTION URGING THE US CONGRESS TO REINSTATE THE FEDERAL ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN; URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO IMPOSE A STATE ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN; AND ALTERNATIVELY URGING THE CONGRESS AND THE LEGISLATURE TO LIFT THE PREEMPTION AND ALLOW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO IMPOSE AN ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

RESOLUTION 1315-04 sponsored by Commissioners Seijas, Barreiro

RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION BANNING PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FROM BEING ADVERTISED ON TELEVISION

RESOLUTION 649-04 sponsored by Commissioners Rolle, Sorenson

RESOLUTION URGING UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO MANDATE THAT INTERPRETERS FLUENT IN FRENCH CREOLE AND SPANISH LANGUAGES BE AVAILABLE ON ALL UNITED STATES COAST GUARD CUTTERS IN DETERMINING THE IMMIGRATION STATUS OF HAITIANS AND CUBAN NATIONALS

RESOLUTION 415-04 sponsored by Commissioners Sosa, Barreiro, Diaz, Morales, Seijas, Sorenson, Rolle, Heyman

RESOLUTION URGING THE PRESIDENT AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO REFRAIN FROM REDUCING OR CUTTING THE SECTION 8 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM; URGING THE PRESIDENT AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING OF THE SECTION 8 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

RESOLUTION 1422-04 sponsored by Commissioners Rolle, Sosa, Jordan

RESOLUTION DIRECTING COUNTY MANAGER TO EXPAND THE PROJECT IMPACT RESIDENTIAL SHUTTERING PROGRAM FOR THE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY TO INCLUDE VERY LOW INCOME FAMILIES AND THE DISABLED, TO IDENTIFY A FUNDING SOURCE; AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACTS THEREOF

Miami Dade County's FY2006 Appropriations Requests

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Empowerment Zone	\$10 million
Head Start/Early Head Start Facilities	\$7.75 million
Juvenile Assessment Center's (JAC) National Demonstration Project	\$2 million

TRANSPORTATION

Seaport

Miami Harbor Channel, Construction Dredging for 42- and 36- foot project	\$20 million
Project Mitigation Reimbursement	\$1.7 million

Transit

Bus Related Discretionary Funds	\$10 million
East-West Corridor	\$10 million
North Corridor	\$10 million
Security System	\$5 million
7 th Avenue Transit Hub	\$1 million

Aviation

High Speed Taxiway	\$2 million
MIA Runway 9R/27L strengthening	\$11 million
Opa-Locka Airport Air Traffic Control Tower	\$4 million

ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Beach Erosion Control	\$4.5 million
Biscayne Bay Feasibility Study	\$250,000
Hialeah Water Treatment Plant	\$2.5 million
Miami River Dredging	\$17.7 million
Mosquito Control	\$250,000
Preston Water Treatment Plant	\$2.5 million

PARKS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Biscayne and Black Creek Trails	\$1 million
Chapman Field Park Trail expansion	\$200,000
Ludlum Trail Acquisition and Construction	\$500,000
PAC Property Acquisition	\$900,000
PAC Technology Infrastructure	\$500,000
PAC Pedestrian Bridge Construction	\$500,000
PAC Main Performing Art Center Construction	\$400,000

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Jay Malina International Trade Consortium Expansion	\$2 million
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HOMELAND SECURITY

Miami-Dade County's Domestic Preparedness Strategy prioritizes funding needs of countywide projects. Projects remain innovative and forward thinking into the preparation, prevention, recovery and mitigation of a terrorist related event. Since the inception of the Department of Homeland Security there has been no homeland security Congressional earmarks, however, Miami-Dade County will continue to work to promote and increase funding for our extensive homeland security needs. Items below have all been approved and included in the comprehensive countywide Domestic Preparedness Strategy Plan.

Miami Dade Fire Rescue

Partnership for Disaster Education	\$1.5 million
Marine Services Fire Rescue Vessel and Enhancement Equipment	\$ 3.5 million

Medical Examiner

Response and Identification Equipment	\$307,176
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Office of Emergency Management

Develop and Construct CERT City	\$3 million
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Miami Dade Police Department

County-Wide Ports, Coastal and Maritime Patrol Initiative	\$480,000
Anti-Terrorism Electronic Surveillance	\$898,300
Tactical Support Component of the	
County-Wide Anti-Terrorism Response	\$559,500
Operation Safe Port & Support Equipment	\$1.35 million
Cyber Security Proposal	\$528,385
Metropolitan Interagency Homeland Training Facility	\$35 million
Records imaging	\$2.2 million

Miami International Airport

Airport EDS Baggage Integration	\$211.2 million
TSA and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Staffing*	

Public Works Department

Assessment of Bridges for Structural Damage Blast Effect	\$650,000
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Seaport

Integrated Safety and Security Systems at Port of Miami	\$5 million
Interoperable Port Wireless Network for Prevention and Response	\$1.56 million
Provision Screening Equipment	\$6 million
Screening Equipment for Cargo Containers	\$7 million

Miami Dade Water and Sewer

Water and Sewer Utility Security Needs	\$102 million
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** Support adequate funding/staffing*



MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

To: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members of the
Board of County Commissioners

Date: January 20, 2005

From: Roman Gastesj
Director

Subject: Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

FEDERAL UPDATE

The 109th Congress convened on January 4th, 2005. Issues expected to be presented to the new Congress will be completion of the 13 appropriation bills before the fiscal year ends on September 30th, 2005, a task that will be difficult due to fiscal constraints that include the war and efforts to reduce the budget deficit by up to one-half.

Other issues to be considered include immigration reform; funding for expanding homeland security needs (including unfunded mandates); Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process which has the potential to impact SOUTHCOM and Homestead Air Force Reserve Base; reauthorization of the Water Resources Development Act that includes U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects at the Port of Miami and Everglades Restoration; comprehensive energy reform; reauthorization of a new 6-year transportation bill that provides for the programming of federal highways, mass transit, and road safety reauthorization of federal welfare programs; reauthorization of the vocational and technical education programs; reauthorization of the Head Start program; consideration of proposals regarding the re-importation of prescription drugs; and consideration of reinstating the ban on semi-automatic assault weapons. Administration proposals to restructure Social Security and a possible Supreme Court nomination are also anticipated to garner significant debate before the 109th Congress.

STATE UPDATE

At the State level, early issues that have arisen before the sixty day 2005 State legislative session - scheduled to run from March 8, 2005 through May 6, 2005 - include Medicaid restructuring, Article V glitch bill, Juvenile Justice, revision to growth management and water-related policies, and costs shifts to counties.

One issue that is currently being worked on is the Medicaid program. The Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) will try to pass legislation that will restructure the Medicaid program with cost saving measures that could drastically impact counties. This issue will be closely monitored during the legislative session.

Last year the legislature passed Senate Bill 2962, the Article V implementation bill. It is expected that there will be an Article V glitch bill that will further clarify the state's responsibility as it relates to operating

the court system. Under the leadership of Representative Gus Barreiro there will be further changes to the state juvenile justice system. At the end of 2004-A Special Session in December there was a commitment by leadership to work with the counties in further defining exactly how the counties were going to assume the state's responsibility for pre-disposition juvenile justice services.

It is also expected that The Department of Community Affairs will be looking to rewrite growth management rules. DCA Secretary Thaddeus Cohen introduced a new planning framework for Florida, but he did not specifically identify statutory or rule changes needed to implement it. He did note that the initiative is a work in progress and encouraged counties to provide input.

And lastly, cost shifts by the state to the counties are always an issue that the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and its contract lobbyists watch for. It is estimated that just about every legislative bill or change to formula-based revenues affects Miami-Dade County in some way shape or form.

OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Miami-Dade County receives more than \$1.1 billion of its revenue from federal and state sources. In addition, federal and state legislation also have a large impact on the County budget (for example, post 9-11 Homeland Security costs have forced County departments such as Aviation and the Port to spend tens of millions to meet new security requirements). For this reason, great attention should be given to intergovernmental affairs. With recent events and the information provided above, the need for a coordinated approach to intergovernmental affairs has never been greater.

The charge of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (OIA) is to coordinate and implement Miami-Dade County's legislative priorities on both the federal and state levels. The legislative priorities are assembled through consultation with the County Manager's staff and all the department directors. The preliminary packages are currently being evaluated by Commission and County Manager staff, and OIA is meeting with each Commissioner in order to produce final drafts that will be presented to the full Board on January 20, 2005 for debate, discussion and ultimate approval.

On November 30, 2004, former Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed.D., sent the Members of the Board of County Commissioners a memorandum concerning OIA. The memorandum covered several items, including: staffing and budget, contract lobbyists, and the 2005 federal and state legislative packages. The memorandum also mentioned that I would prepare a report for the last BCC meeting in January 2005 outlining ways in which the effectiveness of the office can be improved. This memorandum serves that purpose.

Staffing and Budget

There are currently seven (7) positions in OIA: a Director, two (2) federal affairs coordinators, two (2) state affairs coordinators, one (1) municipal liaison, and one (1) intergovernmental affairs assistant. The Director position is currently being recruited and the new Director is expected to be named next month. Both federal affairs coordinator positions are filled along with one of the state coordinator position and the intergovernmental affairs assistant position. Therefore, one of the state coordinator position and the municipal liaison position are vacant. I recommend that the current staffing levels be kept and that the municipal coordinator also work very closely with the Commission Auditor's Office of Legislative Affairs in monitoring the BCC agenda. Since the OIA and the CA offices are being consolidated on the 10th floor of the SPCC, this should be easily achieved.

In order to better coordinate our lobbying efforts in Washington, D.C. and to manage the processing of the County's interests with Congress and the Administration, I recommend a pilot where one federal

affairs coordinator lives in Washington, D.C. Currently, the County provides for staff to reside in Tallahassee full-time during the sixty (60) day Legislative session. Building on this success, and in order to better coordinate our lobbying efforts in DC, I strongly recommend this approach be replicated. This pilot would allow Miami-Dade County staff to liaison on a regular basis with members and staff not only from South Florida, but also from other large urban counties, both within Florida and from across the U.S.

The State of Florida has nine (9) full-time state employees in Washington, which give them a permanent presence in the nation's capitol and allows the state to liaison closely with all Florida Members, as well as attend hearings, meet with Administration staff and attend the monthly Florida Delegation Meetings and functions. A permanent presence in Washington provides them with more immediate access to the Delegation Members, Leadership, staff as well as Agency personnel.

Other large cities, including New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles have permanent staff headquartered in Washington, and have indicated a Washington office helps them develop closer ties and relationships with their state and local Delegation, as well as the White House and Administration, allows for more regular communication, sharing of information, and coordination of legislative and appropriations requests critical to their localities. These ties have had concrete results (for example, the New York City office lead the charge to increase Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funds for their area, and were successful in working with their Delegation and the Department of Homeland Security to increase funding from \$46.7 million in 2004 to \$207.6 million in 2005).

Thus, I recommend a pilot test of having one of our federal affairs coordinators live in Washington, D.C. for the first session of the 109th Congress, which equates to a one (1) year period. After the one (1) year period, I can evaluate its effects on OIA operations.

Contract Lobbyist

There are currently eight (8) prime federal lobbying consultants with four (4) sub-consultants with contracts totaling \$1,175,000, and four (4) prime state lobbying consultants with eight (8) sub-consultants with contracts totaling \$825,000. All of these existing contracts expire January 31, 2005 and have an option to renew for two years (from February 1, 2005 through January 31, 2007). Below are our recommendations on how the lobbyist contracts should be structured:

State Lobbyists

I recommend that the current State Contracts be renewed for an additional six (6) months until July 31, 2005. This will allow our current "team" to stay in place through the State Legislative Session, along with some additional time for the Governor's veto period and final reporting.

I also recommend that a Request for Qualification (RFQ) be advertised immediately in order to restructure the "team" to a more streamlined pool to begin August 1, 2005. I recommend that one (1) or possibly two (2) prime lobbying consultants be selected with a few sub-consultants selected for specific areas of expertise. With this approach, the State lobbying expenditures can be reduced. I also recommend that the contracts begin in August in order to better coincide with the State Legislative Process. Miami-Dade County has been behind the curve in the past by not getting into the State Agency budget process that begins in August of every year followed by the beginning of Committee assignments in September. Getting into the process early will benefit Miami-Dade County because it will increase our chances of acquiring additional monies.

Measurements and accountability must be better introduced into the new contracts. Lobbying is not as simple to track and monitor as other contracts because the input and outputs are not easily identified. Success should be measure by outcomes. Simply put, I must ask whether Miami-Dade County's state

legislative priorities been met? Has everything been done that can be done? Having fewer lobbyists will simplify oversight and allow for better coordination with OIA staff.

Federal Lobbyists

As with the state team, I recommend a more streamlined pool. I recommend that two (2) or possibly three (3) prime lobbying consultants be selected, allowing for sub-consultants selected for specific areas of expertise when and if needed. With this approach, the Federal lobbying expenditures can also be reduced. I also recommend that the future contracts expire in November in order to better coincide with Congressional timetables. In addition, I also recommend the current federal contracts be extended until such time the Board has awarded new Federal lobbying contracts. These extensions are to ensure continuing coverage of our federal issues.

Due to the ever changing "political landscape", both the state and federal contracts must have time and expenditure flexibility. I recommend one (1) year term contracts with three (3) one (1) year options, plus up to \$75,000 per year to issue work orders on specific issues as they arise.

Overall, OIA must, through its direct relations with the executive and legislative branches of the federal and state governments, along with the contract lobbyists, promote an intergovernmental climate that ensures that Miami-Dade County's legislative priorities are met. With the recommendations listed above, and collaboration with the Mayor, Commission, County Manager, department directors and staff, I strongly feel that this mandate can be achieved.

cc: Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
Honorable Harvey Ruvlin, Clerk of the Court
George Burgess, County Manager
Robert A. Ginsburg, County Attorney
Clerk of the Board